

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims

Please cancel Claims 1-24, 40 and 41. Please amend Claims 25, 26 and 29, and add new Claims 42-58. Amendments to the claims are indicated in the attached "Marked Up Version of Amendments" (page i).

replaced
25. (Amended) A neurotrophic peptide, comprising the amino acid sequence of peptide C14 (SEQ ID NO:14) or a neurotrophic variant of SEQ ID NO:14, wherein said neurotrophic variant has at least 90% amino acid sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:14.

26. (Amended) The peptide of Claim 25, further comprising an amino-terminal protecting group, a carboxyl-terminal protecting group, or an amino-terminal protecting group and a carboxyl-terminal protecting group.

29. (Amended) The composition of Claim 28, wherein said neurotrophic factor is CNTF or LIF.

42. (New) The neurotrophic peptide of Claim 25, wherein said peptide comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:12 and SEQ ID NO:13.

43. (New) The peptide of Claim 42, further comprising an amino-terminal protecting group, a carboxyl-terminal protecting group, or an amino-terminal protecting group and a carboxyl-terminal protecting group.

44. (New) A composition, comprising the peptide of Claim 42 and a physiologically acceptable carrier.

45. (New) The composition of Claim 44, further comprising a mammalian neurotrophic factor.

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46. (New) The composition of Claim 45, wherein said neurotrophic factor is CNTF or LIF.

47. (New) A fusion protein, comprising the peptide of Claim 42 and a fusion partner.

48. (New) The fusion protein of Claim 47, wherein said fusion partner is a mammalian neurotrophic factor.

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~~49. (New) The fusion protein of Claim 48, wherein said neurotrophic factor is CNTF or LIF.~~

50. (New) A composition, comprising the fusion protein of Claim 47 and a physiologically acceptable carrier.

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51. (New) A neurotrophic variant of SEQ ID NO:34 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:14, wherein said variant comprises fewer amino acid residues than SEQ ID NO:34 and has at least 90% amino acid sequence identity with a corresponding portion of SEQ ID NO:34.

52. (New) The neurotrophic variant of SEQ ID NO:34 according to Claim 51, wherein said neurotrophic variant comprises SEQ ID NO:13.

53. (New) The neurotrophic variant of SEQ ID NO:34 according to Claim 51, wherein said neurotrophic variant comprises amino acids 79-666 of SEQ ID NO:34.

54. (New) The neurotrophic variant of SEQ ID NO:34 according to Claim 51, wherein said neurotrophic variant comprises amino acids 33-666 of SEQ ID NO:34.

55. (New) The neurotrophic variant of SEQ ID NO:34 according to Claim 51, wherein said neurotrophic variant has at least 90% amino acid sequence identity with amino acid residues 33-666 of SEQ ID NO:34.